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SECURITY INFORMATION

# INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

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COUNTRY Indochina.

DATE DISTR. 30 January 1953

**SUBJECT.** Use of Civilian Auxiliary Labor Forces  
by the Democratic Republic of Vietnam

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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1. Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) mobilization of civilians to provide auxiliary labor for the regular army units has been underway since 1950. This procedure was adopted because of the impossibility of recruiting labor on the spot for specific attacks. Now civilians are drafted in advance and sent to the combat areas where they will be needed. Auxiliary labor forces were first used at Nghia Lo. They are now used on all fronts, permitting the DRV to launch simultaneous attacks on several fronts, even if the regular units are not up to full strength.
2. For the past two months a new method has been used for recruiting auxiliary labor using civilians from the ages of 18 to 45. Each regular company is provided with an auxiliary unit whose effectives total half its own strength. The "Auxiliary Forces Squads" are armed like the guerrilla forces and are commanded by a regular army man, usually a section chief, appointed by the Administrative and Resistance Committee. Sometimes they are commanded by a draftee, who is occasionally chosen by the troops themselves. The length of duty for these recruits has not yet been determined and primarily depends on the needs of the individual fronts.
3. Mobilization is directed by the regional Administrative and Resistance Committee, which informs the lower-level committees when a draft is to be called. The village committees are then responsible for preparing a list of local citizens who have performed no military service. This list is submitted to the Provincial Militia which is then responsible for organizing the recruits into units.
4. The auxiliary troops receive one kilo of rice per day, but no salary. They are actually no better treated than French prisoners of war and are required to do the same types of difficult and dangerous work. Their title of "auxiliary forces" is merely a propaganda title. They are responsible for the transport of food and materiel, digging trenches, setting up sign posts and obstacles prior to regular troops operations and for collecting materiel left behind by the enemy and caring for DRV wounded at the close of operations.

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